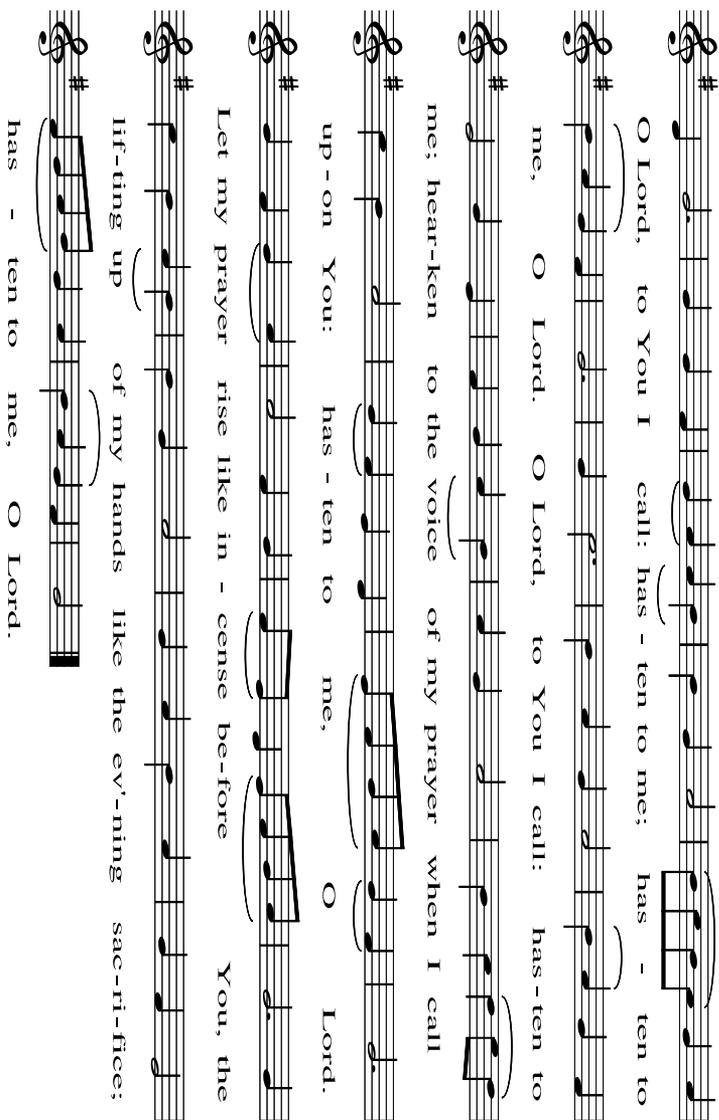


THE FEAST OF THE HOLY
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, GOD,
AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

GREAT VESPERS

Lamp-tig'hting' Psalms



O Lord, to You I call: has - ten to me; has - ten to me, O Lord. O Lord, to You I call: has - ten to me; hear - ken to the voice of my prayer when I call up - on You: has - ten to me, O Lord.

Let my prayer rise like in - cense be - fore You, the lif - ting up of my hands like the ev - ning sac - ri - fice: has - ten to me, O Lord.

STICHERA FOR THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

8. O Lord, when You were transfigured before being crucified, Mount Tabor was made to resemble Heaven, for a cloud was extended as a canopy and the Father bore witness to You. Peter, James, and John were present there, the same three apostles who were to be with You at the time of Judas' betrayal; so that having seen You in glory, they would not be dismayed at the time of Your suffering. Likewise, O Lord, make us worthy to recognize You as our God in these same sufferings You endured in Your great mercy, and to adore You!

7. O Lord, when You were transfigured... *(Repeat)*

6. O Lord, as a preparation to Your crucifixion, You led some of Your disciples to a high mountain and became transfigured before them, enlightening them with a radiation of light and glory. In this way, You showed the reality of the Resurrection You are to grant us in Your love for men and Your almighty power as God. Make us worthy of the Resurrection, O God, for You are gracious and the Lover of Mankind!

5. O Lord, as a preparation... *(Repeat)*

4. O Lord, when You were transfigured on a high mountain in the presence of Your foremost disciples, You radiated with glory, showing how those who lead an outstanding life of virtue will be made worthy of the glory of Heaven. Elijah and Moses, conversing with the Lord, showed Him to be the Lord of the living and the dead, God who spoke through the Law and the Prophets – the same to whom the Father's voice bore witness out of the bright cloud, saying: "Hear Him, for it is He, through His Cross, who despoiled Hades and granted eternal life to the dead!"

3. O Lord, when You were... *(Repeat)*

2. Indeed, O Lord, the mountain that had been dark with smoke today becomes honorable and holy because You stood on it; the mystery hidden from the beginning of the world becomes manifest in Your Transfiguration before Peter, James, and John, who fell with

their faces to the ground, unable as they were to bear the light of Your countenance and the splendor of Your clothing. A further marvel was the vision of Moses and Elijah conversing with You on Your future, and the voice of the Father bearing witness and saying: “This is My beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased. Hear Him. He is the One who will convey great mercy on the world!”

1. Indeed, O Lord... *(Repeat)*

- ver and e - ver, a-men.

- ly Spi-rit now and al-ways and for-e-

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-

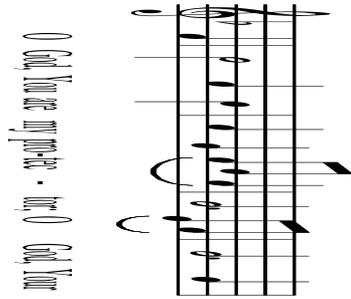
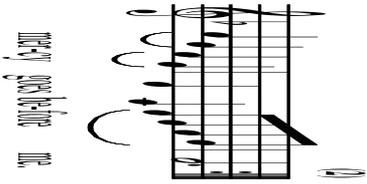
v.

O Christ God, when You willed to prefigure Your Resurrection, You chose three disciples – Peter, James, and John – and went up with them to Mount Tabor. At the moment of Your Transfiguration, O Savior, the mountain was flooded with light, and Your disciples fell with their faces to the ground, for they could not bear the sight of Your countenance upon which no one may look, O Word! Angels attended with trembling and awe; the heavens were afraid: and the earth shook to its very foundations when they saw the Lord of Glory come upon the earth.

Entrance, “O Joyful Light”

PROKIMENON OF THE DAY

P: The Prokimenon of Vespers!

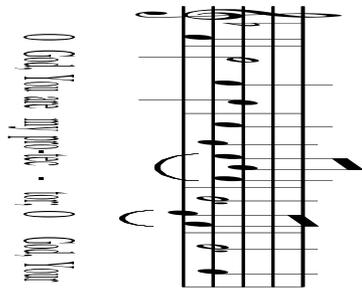
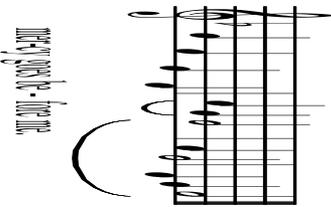


R:

All: *Repeat Prokimenon*

R: O God deliver me from my foe, save me from those who oppose me.

All: *Repeat Prokimenon*



R:

READINGS

P: Wisdom!

R: The reading is from the Book of Exodus

P: Let us be attentive!

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them.” So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we come back to you. Indeed, Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man has a difficulty, let him go to them.” Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on

the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

P: Wisdom!

R: The reading is from the Book of Exodus

P: Let us be attentive!

So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle. Then Moses said to the Lord, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people."

And He said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth." So the Lord said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name." And he said, "Please, show me Your glory." Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." And the Lord said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen."

Then Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone. Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the Lord

passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth.” So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped.

P: Wisdom!

R: The reading is from the Book of III Kings

P: Let us be attentive!

And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, “It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!” Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, “Arise and eat.” Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again. And the angel of the Lord came back the second time, and touched him, and said, “Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.” So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God. And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Then the Lord said to him: “Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria. Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

P: Peace be to you readers.

APOSTICHA

1. He who mysteriously spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai and said, “I am who I am,” today manifests Himself to His disciples on Mount Tabor and reveals through His Person that human nature is re-established in its original splendor. As witnesses to this grace and partakers of this joy, He raised up Moses and Elijah, the Forerunners of the glorious and saving Resurrection made possible by the Cross of Christ.

v. Yours is the Heaven and Yours the earth: You have founded the earth and made all that it contains.

2. When David, the forefather of the Lord, foresaw in spirit Your coming in the flesh, he invited the whole creation to rejoice, crying out prophetically: “O Savior, Tabor and Herman shall rejoice in Your name;” for indeed, You ascended this mountain with Your disciples. Through Your Transfiguration, You returned Adam’s nature to its original splendor, restoring its very elements to the glory and brilliance of Your divinity. Wherefore, we cry out to You, the Creator of All: “Glory to You!”

v. Tabor and Herman shall rejoice in Your name.

3. O Christ, without a beginning, when on the Mount of the Transfiguration Your disciples saw the Light that was Yours and Your unapproachable divinity, they were rapt in amazement and completely changed. They were enrobed in a brilliant cloud, and they heard the Father’s voice confirming the mystery of Your Incarnation; for even after coming in the flesh, You remained the only-begotten Son and the Savior of mankind.

v. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

O Lord, today on Mount Tabor, You have manifested the glory of Your divinity to Your chosen disciples, Peter, James, and John. They saw Your clothing radiant as light and Your face more brilliant than the sun. Unable to bear Your overwhelming radiance, or to look upon You, they fell to the ground and heard a voice bearing witness from Heaven: “This is My beloved Son, who came to the world to save mankind.”

